(195 49) Department

SERIES

I.O. No. 327	
Dated 11. 2- 49	

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Ms.	847.	Rev	14.4.48				
	255		2.2.49.				

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department	Date.
Memo	44499	D/49. Rev.	17.8.49				
Ms.	3685	~~Rev.~~	14.9.50.				

BOARD OF REVENUE (EXCISE) DEPARTMENT

Sub:- Prohibition - Liquor - Issue from licensed Clubs to permit-holders - Coupon scheme - Certain proposals - Submitted.

Read:-G.O. Ms. No. 2646, Revenue, dated 9.11.1948.
Government Memorandum No. 70316/D/48-1, Revenue, dated 11.12.49

C.R.No. 38946/Pro/48/XF.3.

Station:- Madras. Dated 25.12.1948.

From

Sri. P. Rajagopalachari,
Assistant Secretary, Board of Revenue (Excise).

V.N. Kudva, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Member, Board of Revenue and Commissioner of Land Revenue,
Excise and Prohibition.

Reference:-

With reference to para 7 of Government Order cited the Board issued a Circular to all the Clubs to which licences have been issued under section 20(b) of the Prohibition Act requesting them to furnish list of members of the clubs holding permits in Form VII and who wish to obtain liquor from the clubs on coupon system. Replies have been received from all the clubs except a few and it is found that there are about 4,000 permit holders who wish to avail themselves of the coupon system. Based on this number 32,000 coupon books per month or 96,000 coupon books per quarter may have to be printed and distributed to the permit holders.

2. With reference to para 6 of the Government Order cited a form of coupon based on the model of petrol ration coupon was drawn up and the Superintendent, Government Press was consulted about the printing and supply of the coupons. It was pointed out to him that the coupons should be of different colours for each month of the quarter and that the design of the coupon should such that it could not be imitated easily so as to prevent the possibility of unauthoris coupons coming into existence. The Superintendent, Government Press has agreed to the form of the coupon drawn up by the Board and has suggested that the coupons may be printed on security base paper used for printing food bonus coupons and bread tickets under the Food Rationing Scheme. He has also suggested that the possibility of unauthorised coupons coming into existence will be removed if the security base paper is used. He has also stated that the security base paper has to be prepared and supplied by the Printing and Photo Expert, Central Survey Office, Madras. The Board has taken necessary action to get the coupons printed by the Superintendent, Government Press. As directed in para 3 of the Government Order cited, the Board proposes to have red, green and blue coloured coupons for the first, second and the third of each quarter. Each coupon book will contain 12 sheets of two coupons each and will be serially machine numbered. The number of the book will be impressed on each of the coupons in that book as in the case of petro ration coupon. A specimen copy of the coupon with the cover page of the coupon book and a specimen of the security base paper on which the coupons are proposed to printed are enclosed.

3. The representatives of the six clubs in Madras at whose instance the coupon system has been ordered to be introduced have raised certain points for elucidation and clarification. A copy of the representation received is enclosed. The Board has examined the points raised and offer the following remarks:-

(a) In para 2 of the representation the point raised is whether a permit-holder who is a member of more than one Club can

purchase of liquor on coupons from any one or all the clubs. The representatives of the six clubs have pointed out that it was their intention to purchase liquor on coupons from all the clubs of which the coupon holder is a member and that this view has been expressed by them in their original letter dated 18.10.1948 proposing the introduction of the coupon system.

The main object of the coupon system is to ensure that a permit holder does not consume liquor over and above the quantity entered in the permit for a month. If this object is secured there seems to be no necessity to place any restriction on the number of clul from which the coupon holder may purchase liquor. According to conditions 2 of the Club Licence (Form VIII) the clubs should supply liquor only to permit holders who are members of the club and so there is no risk of the club serving liquor to a coupon holder who is a non-member of that club eventhough he may be a coupon holder attached to some other club. As an additional safeguard the Board has proposed to prescribe the following procedure. While issuing coupons to the permit holders the number printed on the coupon books issued will be entered on the permits. Whenever the coupon holder wishes to purchase liquor from any of the clubs of which he is a member he will be required to produce the permit and the appropriate number of coupons covering the qu antity of liquor required by him. The club whi dispensing liquor will be directed to verify whether the coupons are those issued to the permit holder by comparing them with the number entered in the permit in cases where there is suspicion. This would provide an effective check to see that the coupons issued to a permit holder are used by that permit holder and not by others. If this procedure is followed there would be no objection to allow a coupon holder to have his liquor in one or more of the clubs of which he is a member.

(b) The request made in paras 3,4 and 5 of the representation is that for reasons mentioned in para 4 of the representation coupon holders may be permitted to buy liquor from the licensed liquor dealers appointed by Government in addition to the privilege of obtaining liquor from clubs. The Board has carefully considered this request and has discussed the matter with a representative of one of the six clubs. As pointed out in the case of the request referred to, in sub-para (a) above, if the object of the coupon system, viz., that the permit holder is not allowed to consume more liquor than is allowed in the permit there would be no objection to grant the request. There are only a limited number (viz 8) of the licensed distributing agencies of liquor at present from which the permit holders and the clubs have to purchase their requirements. A proposal is under the consideration of Government by which Depots for storage and distribution of liquor to permit holders will be opened in different districts. Even under this proposal there will be only a limited number of sources of supply. If the procedure suggested in sub para (a) above is followed in the case of purchase of liquor by coupon holders from the authorised agencies also the Board considers that there may be no objection to grant the request. As the permit holder, will have the permit with him when he wants to purchase liquor from the licensed supplier he may produce the licence and the appropriate number of coupons covering the quantity of liquor he wishes to purchase. The licensed supplier may be directed to verify the number entered on the coupon with that entered in the permit to ensure that the coupons issued to the permit holder only have been tendered, make an endorsement on the permit as to the number of coupons tendered and supply the liquor.

If this request is granted the endorsement referred to in para 2 of the Government Order, viz., 'Coupon issued upto -.... ..... here enter date -- No liquor to be supplied except from clubs' will have to be changed. The Board suggests that the endorsement may be changed as follows:-

"Coupons issued upto . . . . . here enter date -

No liquor to be supplied except on coupons".

(c) The request made in para 6 of the representation is that provision may be made for the issue of coupons to permit holders to apply for and obtain permit in the middle of a quarter. There will be no difficulty to provide for this. If such a permit holder wishes to have coupons, appropriate number of coupons to cover the unexpired portion of the quarter may be issued to him at the time of issuing the permit.

(d) The request made in para 7 of the representation is that coupons may be issued to clubs one week in advance of the commencement of a quarter. There could be no difficulty to ensure this provided the applications for coupons are made sufficiently early. The Board is informing the representatives of the six clubs accordingly.

(e) With reference to para 8 of the representation the Board does not propose in view of the scriptory work involved to amend the existing permits by altering the quantities in all kinds of liquor entered in the permits in terms of units. It is issuing general instructions to the local officers intimating them that the permit holders may possess at any time upto the quantity allowed for consumption in a month irrespective of the kind of liquor possessed and that they should not interefere with the permit holders unless the quantity of liquor possessed at any one time exceeds the quantity allowed for the month. The licensed dealers will also be informed of this alteration. In all the permits issued on or after 1-1-1949 the quantity of liquor to be possessed will be specified in terms of units.

(f) In para 9 of the representation it has been suggested that a time limit of 6 months may be prescribed for the retention of surrendered coupons by clubs. Liquor permits are issued for a period one year at a time. The Board considers that the surrendered coupons also should be retained for a period of one year and then destroyed. For this purpose Prohibition officers and the District Superintendents of Police will be instructed to arrange for the inspection of accounts maintained in the clubs and with licensed dealers relating to the issue of liquor on coupons by a Prohibition or Police Officer not lower in rank than an Assistant Prohibition Officer or an Inspector of Police as the case may be, once a quarter not later than 10th of the month following the quarter and take possession of all the surrendered coupons. These coupons may be retained for a year in the office of the District Prohibition Officer or District Superintendent of Policeas the case may be and then destroyed.

(g) The request made in para 10 of the representation is that the 7 European merchants in Madras who were dealing in liquor may be authorised permanently for the purpose of supplying liquor to permit holders and clubs. The Board invites the attention of the Government to the remarks in para 4 of the Commissioner's D.O. No. 33422/Pro/48/XII.3. dated 21.10.1948 regarding this request.

4. In para 7 of the Government Order cited the Government have directed that when coupons are ready for issue the Board may ask the clubs to produce the permits of the members and issue coupons against them to the clubs for distribution to their members. The same procedure is to be followed every quarter when fresh coupons are to be issued. The Board would submit in this connection that the collection of permits from the members by clubs and forwarding them to the Board for issue of coupons will take time which may result in delay in the issue of coupons. It would therefore suggest that instead of collecting the permits and submitting them to the Board the clubs may indent for the number of coupon books required for the distribution to the members by the 15th of the month preceding the quarter. These indents may be

followed by a list of members for whom coupons are required. The indents will be scrutinized by the Board with reference to the list of members (permit-holders) maintained by it and the required number of coupons supplied to the clubs by about the 22nd for distribution among the members. The clubs will be required to make the endorsement referred to in para 2 of the Government Order, viz., 'coupons issued upto ..... here enter date). No liquor to be supplied except on coupons' and also to enter on each permit the number on the coupon books issued to that permit holder. The clubs will also be required to keep an account of coupon books received by them from the Board and distributed to their members. This account will be checked by the inspecting officers referred to in para 3(b) above during their quarterly inspections. Unused coupons if any will be taken possession of by them and sent to the office of the District Prohibition Officer or the District Superintendent of Police as the case may be. The District Prohibition Officers and District Superintendents of Police may forward the unused coupon books to the Board for further use.

5. The draft amendments to the relevant forms or licenses, etc. will be submitted to Government as soon as the orders of the Government are received on the above proposals.

6. It has been ascertained from the Superintendent, Government Press that the printing of the coupon books indented for the next quarter will be complete only in the first week of January 1949. Some of the clubs have not furnished the list of members who wish to avail themselves of the coupon system. The Board suggests that the coupon system may given effect from 1.2.1949 instead of from 1.1.1949. Urgent orders may be passed in this suggestion and communicated to the Board for communication to the clubs.

(Sd) Rajagopalachari,
Assistant Secretary.

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras. (with 2 encls).

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Revenue Department.

Memorandum No. [illegible]/48-3 dated 30.12.1948

Sub:- Prohibition - Liquor - Issue from licensed clubs to permit holders - Coupon system.

Ref:- G.O. Ms. No. 2646, Revenue, dated 9.11.1948.
From the Board of Revenue, Reference CR. 38946/Pro/48/F.3 dated 25.12.1948.

In the circumstances stated by the Board of Revenue in para 6 of its reference quoted above, the Government accept the suggestion of the Board that the coupon system may be given effect to from 1.2.1949 instead of from 1.1.1949. Orders on the other points raised by the Board will be issued later.

The Board of Revenue (Excise), Madras.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Revenue Department.

Memorandum No. 70316/D/48-4 dated 19.1.1949.

Sub:- Prohibition - Liquor - Issue from licensed clubs - Coupon scheme.

Ref:- From the Board of Revenue, C.R.No. 38946/Pro/48/XF.3. dated 25.12.1948.
Memorandum No. 70316/D/48-3, Revenue, dated 30.12.1948.

The Government have examined the request for certain changes in the procedure laid down in G.O. Ms. No. 2646 Revenue, dated 9.11.1948, and the Board's recommendations in the matter. The Government consider that it is not necessary to grant any further concessions in this regard and direct that a permit holder is a member of more than one club, he may choos the club from which he will get his supply and he should get liquor only from that club and no other source and that coupons should be issued by the Board only after the permit holders submit their permits to the Board either directly or through the clubs and after the necessary endorsement is made on the permits. The permit holders who are not members of any club or being members do not wish to consume liquor in clubs may get their supply of liquor direct from the dealers and they need not have coupons. The proposals in para 3(c) and (f) of the Board's reference quoted above are approved.

2. The Board of Revenue is requested to state whether the coupons have been printed by the Superintendent, Government Press and arrangements made to bring the scheme into effect from 1.2.1949.

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(sd) 9-1-49

The Board of Revenue (Excise), Madras.

BOARD OF REVENUE (EXCISE) DEPARTMENT.

Sub:- Prohibition - Liquor - Issue from licensed clubs - Coupon scheme.

Read:- Government Memorandum No. 70316/D/48-4 dated 19.1.1949.
Government Memorandum No. 70316/D/48-5 dated 31.1.1949.

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C.R.No. 38946/Pro/48/XF.3.

Station:- Madras. Dated 2.2.1949.

From

Sri. P. Rajagopalachari,
Assistant Secretary, Board of Revenue (Excise).

V.N. Kudva, Esq., I.C.S.,
Member, Board of Revenue and Commissioner of Land Revenue, Excise and Prohibition.

Reference:-

With reference to paragraph 2 of Government, Revenue Department Memorandum No. 70316/D/48-4 dated 19.1.1949 the Board

submits that coupon books of red colour tenable for February 1949 have been received from the Superintendent, Government Press and are being issued to permit holders. The scheme has been brought into effect from 1.2.1949. The issue of coupons is in progress. A further report will be submitted in due course regarding the working of the common scheme.

N. Subramanian,
Assistant Secretary
(Irrigation in charge).

To

The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras.

~~Office Assistant~~,
Madras Record Office.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

[Issued as memo 70316 D/48-4 dt 19.1.49].
From the Bd. of Rev. C.R. 38946 Prb.148 x F3 dt 2.2.49.

Please see the Board's reference on page 13 c.f. The Board has stated that the scheme for the issue of liquor from licenced clubs on coupon to permit holders has been brought into effect from 1.2.1949 and has promised to send a further report regarding the working of the scheme. No further action is necessary in this file. Action is being taken separately in file No. 42184/D/48 for issuing the necessary amendments to the forms prescribed under Prohibition Act. These papers may be recorded as a Miscellaneous Government Order, for future reference. A Call Book Entry will be entered against 20.6.1949 to watch for the Board's further report referred to at 'X' above.

Recorded

x x x
10.2.1949.

O.-Ms._No._329-dated ~~11.2.1949~~.

G.O. Ms. No. 329 dated 11.2.1949.

Prohibition - Liquor - Issue from licensed clubs permit holders - Coupon scheme - Papers - Recorded.

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R. Theagarajan 2.1.49
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

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